

**CITY OF MILWAUKIE
CITY COUNCIL WORK SESSION
February 21, 1995**

Mayor Lomnicki opened the work session at 5:30 p.m. The following Councilmembers present:

Craig Lomnicki,
Mayor
Rick Farley

Jean Schreiber
Rob Kappa
Don Trotter

Staff present:

Dan Bartlett,
City Manager
Charlene Richards,
Assistant to the
City Manager

Maggie Collins,
Community Development Director
Diana Myrvang,
Public Information Coordinator
Pat DuVal,
Recorder/Secretary

Also present:

Roger Brown, Director,
NCPRD
Don Robertson
NCPRD
Joan Young,
Director, Milwaukie Center

Rob Curtis, Parks & Recreation Commission
Ken Bailey, Parks & Recreation Commission
Susanna Pai, Budget Committee

North Clackamas Parks and Recreation District Budget

Rob Curtis, Parks and Recreation Commission Chair, discussed the advisory board's recommendations submitted for consideration during the District's 1995 budget process. He added that many local residents have requested the District funds for school ground improvements.

Councilmember Farley asked what type of improvements were being requested. **Curtis** said citizens' requests included upgrading Linwood School playground equipment and building bleachers at various ballfields.

Curtis reviewed the budget request priorities:

1. Complete the Ardenwald Park Master Plan but delete the path that extends along the northern portion of the park.
2. Acquire property: first priority, north of the trestle and west of Kellogg Lake to link with Dogwood Park; second priority, Willamette River sites.
3. Suspend construction at Furnberg Park until a master plan is created. Dedicate funds toward a master plan in fiscal year 1995 - 1996.
4. Maintain funding for Scott Park project; however, wait on actual expenditures until more light rail alignment decisions are made.
5. Refurbish the Century Park tennis courts in fiscal year 1995 - 1996.
6. Continue consideration of the regional request for a skateboard park.

Councilmember Farley asked what the School District Superintendent was going to do about smoking on ballfields. **Robertson** said the ballfields on school grounds are controlled by the School District. He added that smoking is still permitted in District parks.

Councilmember Farley asked what would be needed to prohibit smoking during baseball and softball games. **Brown** said the Regional Parks Advisory Board has adopted park rules; however, smoking is not addressed. He agreed to take the issue before the board.

Councilmember Farley asked if prohibiting smoking could be done on a request basis. **Robertson** said, based on league rules, the umpire may prohibit smoking as a role-model issue.

Brown said the District supports the Parks and Recreation Commission's recommendations and is preparing the budget in line with these requests. He discussed refurbishing the Milwaukie Center kitchen at an estimated cost of \$15,000 to \$20,000. There has been a lot of wear on the floors and countertops which could encourage the growth of certain bacteria.

Young added that the nutrition program has grown substantially, and the current condition of the floor and countertop has created both health and safety issues.

Mayor Lomnicki asked if the District had considered requesting Community Development Block Grant funds. **Brown** said he did not believe there was funding for maintenance projects.

Brown concurred with the Commission's recommendation on Scott Park. The District would also like to make changes to Century Park and is listing it as a study area. He added that the District would like to discuss an improvement project with the Rotary. There is a question of whether a tennis court is the best use of the property.

Councilmember Farley asked what alternative was being considered. **Brown** said the court would be removed, but the alternate use has not been determined. He added that funds have not as yet been identified for Century Park.

Brown said there would be an undetermined amount of money for land acquisition in the event of an opportunity.

Councilmember Schreiber said she did not think the other neighborhoods in the District were aware of how much of its own money the City of Milwaukie has used in acquiring property. The City continues to buy property and invest beyond the amount provided by the District.

Brown added that the District would look at the possibility of replacing or adding some playground equipment in certain parks. Funds for this purpose still need to be identified.

Councilmember Trotter asked if the District was complying with ADA standards. **Brown** said all the parks the District has developed are in compliance with ADA standards. The District is aware of its responsibilities in that area, but they are not quite as high on the priority list as some other items.

Councilmember Schreiber noted that there were probably some ADA concerns in the Center kitchen.

Brown discussed the possibility of a skateboard park in the District. Skateboarding is a viable leisure interest; however, most counsels subscribe to liability concerns.

Councilmember Schreiber said the Regional Board made a commitment to develop a skateboard park.

Robertson noted that skateboarding has not been banned in the parks. Multi-purpose cement or blacktop, in some respects, addresses skateboarders' needs.

Brown said he understood that Southern Pacific would begin clean-up of the regional parks land as soon as they get the go-ahead from DEQ. He discussed the future development that would include picnic areas, four miles of trails, and youth soccer and softball fields.

Councilmember Kappa asked how expensive it would be to insure a skateboard park. **Robertson** said risk managers are beginning to look at skateboarding as another form of leisure activity. In cities like Cannon Beach and Seaside, it is just part of doing business.

Councilmember Farley asked about privatizing a skateboard park. **Robertson** said the private skateboard park in the City of Portland recently closed. It is very difficult for a private agency to operate because of costs.

Brown discussed park rules that would be made public this Spring. One of the rules, in response to many complaints, will require that dogs be on leashes in District parks. Fees cannot be assessed for this type of violation, so the District can only hope people will abide by it.

Bartlett suggested that the County-wide leash law might help.

Curtis said the Parks and Recreation Commission is dedicated to making things work for both the City and the District.

Richards said she would bring the Commission's recommendation before the City Council on March 7 for adoption by Resolution.

South/North Update

Maggie Collins, Community Development Director, presented the staff report. She reviewed the possible locations of the light rail stations in the downtown area.

Bartlett said Metro, Tri-Met, and the City were looking at locations that would most logically serve the public. The passenger stations would probably be located within a five-minute, or 1/4-mile, radius.

Collins said the map illustrates the central boarding point and those areas from which the station might draw.

Bartlett added that the map did not indicate the barriers and areas in which people would not walk. What is shown is the sphere of influence.

Councilmember Farley said he understood that the total area required for the line and right-of-way was 60 feet. **Collins** discussed the right-of-way needed for the line, street, and sidewalk. The downtown stations would have to be 100-feet long to accommodate the double train. It is assumed that there would be no park-and-rides in the downtown area.

Councilmember Farley asked if the proposed designs actually met the needs of the people. **Bartlett** said certain criteria need to be met such as land use, transportation, and housing needs.

Councilmember Farley said no one is responding well to the proposed Washington line.

Bartlett discussed the needs of the Harmony Road/Linwood/Railroad Avenue intersection and proposed future rail developments.

Councilmember Trotter asked if there was enough room for light rail, high speed, and freight lines. **Bartlett** said takings would be about one lot deep to accommodate all three lines.

Pat DuVal
Pat DuVal, Recorder/Secretary

